

## Message Text

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13

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 DRC-01 /072 W

----- 108956

R 010639Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1348

INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PK

SUBJ: ATTEMPT ON LIFE OF WALI KHAN

1. ATTEMPT WAS MADE TO KILL WALI KHAN, HEAD OF  
OPPOSITION NATIONAL AWAMI PARTY (NAP), IN NORTHWEST  
FRONTIER PROVINCE SEPTEMBER 28. ACCORDING PRESS  
REPORTS, WALI WAS FIRED UPON BY "UNKNOWN PERSONS"  
WHILE TRAVELING BY JEEP ON MARDAN-MALAKAND ROAD IN  
MID-AFTERNOON ENROUTE TO SWAT. WALI HIMSELF  
WAS UNHURT BUT DRIVER OF JEEP WAS INJURED AND ONE OTHER  
PASSENGER, IDENTIFIED AS WALI'S COOK, WAS KILLED.  
WALI RETURNED TO CHARSADDA AFTER THE INCIDENT, WHERE  
HE REMAINS.

2. PRIMIN BHUTTO AND OTHER LEADERS HAVE ISSUED PUBLIC  
STATEMENTS EXPRESSING SHOCK AT ATTACK ON WALI KHAN.  
BHUTTO SENT WALI TELEGRAM FROM LAHORE, TEXT OF WHICH  
RELEASED TO PRESS, CONDEMNING "HEINOUS ATTACK" AND  
PROMISING FULL COOPERATION CENTRAL AND PROVINCIAL GOVERN-  
MENTS IN APPREHENDING CULPRITS. HIS WORDS WERE

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ECHOED BY INTERIOR MINISTER (AND WALI'S POLITICAL

BETE NOIRE) QAYYUM KHAN AND OTHER ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS AS WELL AS BY POLITICAL LEADERS FROM BOTH PRO-GOVERNMENT AND OPPOSITION PARTIES. NWFP CHIEF MINISTER ORDERED IMMEDIATE INQUIRY INTO INCIDENT. ACCORDING AMCONSUL PESHAWAR OPPOSITION FIGURES IN PESHAWAR ARE CHARGING THAT GOVERNMENT ITSELF PLANNED THE ATTACK ON WALI WHILE OTHERS HAVE SUGGESTED THAT KISSAN MAZDOOR MEMBERS MAY HAVE BEEN CULPRITS.

3. COMMENT: SEEMS MOST UNLIKELY THAT RESPONSIBLE LEADERS OF BHUTTO ADMINISTRATION WOULD WISH CONFER MARTYRDOM ON WALI KHAN BY ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT. CONCEIVABLE, HOWEVER, THAT CULPRITS MIGHT HAVE BEEN LOCAL PPP MEMBERS OVER-REACTING TO ENDLESS BARRAGE OF ANTI-WALI INVECTIVE GROUND OUT BY GOVERNMENT. ON OTHER HAND, WALI HAS NUMEROUS PERSONAL ENEMIES, NWFP STILL A PLACE WHERE ARGUMENTS ARE SETTLED BY BULLETS, AND HIS ASSAILANTS COULD TURN OUT TO BE JUST ABOUT ANYONE.  
SANDERHOFF

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ASSASSINATION, POLITICAL LEADERS, PUBLIC ATTITUDES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 01 SEP 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973ISLAMA08476  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** ISLAMABAD  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730958/aaaabqrk.tel  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ATTEMPT ON LIFE OF WALI KHAN  
**TAGS:** PINT, PK, (KHAN, WALI)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005